APPENDIX I.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 47.)

Resolution passed on 28th Vrischigam 1100.

"ഈ പഞ്ചായത്തിൽ നിന്നും ഇക്കൊല്ലം വരന്തരപ്പിള്ളി പുഴയിൽ കെട്ടിക്കുന്നതിന് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ചിറയുടെ എസ്റ്റിമേറ് ഇന്നേടിവസം ക്രടിയ മീറ്റിങ്ങിൽ ഞങ്ങൾ തയ്യാറാക്കി അയക്കുന്നു.

"ചിറയുടെ പണി തുടങ്ങുന്നതിന് തിടുക്കമായിരിക്കുന്നു. പുഴയിൽ വെള്ളം കുറഞ്ഞുതുടങ്ങി. അതിനാൽ വേണ്ടവിധം മുപടി താമസിയാതെ തരുന്നതിന് താല്പര്യപ്പെടുന്നു."

The General Discussion of the Budget.

President.—Let us proceed with the General Discussion of the Budget.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—Sir, I shall confine myself, as far as possible, strictly, to the financial review of the budget under discussion without introducing extraneous points. I have carefully gone through the statement submitted by the Finance Member, and find that our Government is not only solvent, but that its financial position is satisfactory.

President.—You may give your congratulations to the Finance Member.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I congratulate the Finance Member also. The net balance for the year 1101 is Rs. 41,56,453. The revised budget shows a surplus of Rs. 46,49,533, and according to the revised estimate the year will close with a surplus of 5 lakhs. If there is no windfall in the Customs Revenue, we can hope that the coming year also will close with a surplus budget. I do not fall short of my anticipations, under the present circumstances, of the stabilisation of the financial world. We should expect more from foreign trade, and Customs duties would be a normal recurring feature in years to come. Now, it may be pointed out that this is mere paper surplus than a real one. The Finance Member has himself taken great care to explain the things in the statement, taking into account the amounts lent out for the improvements of works as well as for other purposes inside and outside the State. For the Harbour Works, we have spent, till 1101, about 12 lakhs of rupees. It may be said that this is spent on experimental work, and may not bring any return. I can tell the House that no great work

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of an industrial or of a financial kind could be undertaken without some sort of experiment and necessary expenditure at the initial stage. The other Government advance is for the Vaniampara Rubber Company and the amount given as loan is about one lakh and odd. There was a period of depression for the rubber market, and that depression is passing away. We may hope that, if the state of the market continues like this, it will prove to be a very profitable concern.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—They have already paid back Rs. 25,000 to the Government.

President.—The price of rubber has gone down from Rs. 3 to Re. 1 per pound.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—That does not affect the position. The other investments of the surplus to the credit of the State are in the Cochin Tanneries, Ltd., the Sitaram Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd., and the Mysore War Bonds. Some of these investments can be called in at any time. For instance, the Mysore loan can be called in at a slight discount. I find that the year 1102 would close with a cash balance of 20 lakhs.

This is the bright side of the picture, and there is a corresponding dark side also. The Government is not in the position of an individual or a family. For a family, of course, there is necessity for adjusting the expenditure according to the income. In the case of a State, the foremost thing is expenditure, and we may try, if possible, to keep our income in accordance with our expenditure. If we examine the financial position of England and other countries after the war, it can be seen that the war has affected their financial position to a great degree. Even during the war, progressive and development works were being carried out in England. There is no objection to borrow money, if it is necessary for public works of utility and for improving the nation-building departments. This will, of course, add to the well-being of the State and the prosperity of its people, instead of retarding it. These things will bring greater returns not only to satisfy the debts but also to add to the assets of the State. If we want, we can raise debenture bonds for Harbour and other irrigation works we have got in view. We can avoid meeting them from the normal revenue. No civilised government undertakes gigantic irrigation works from normal income but from money borrowed for the purpose. If, therefore, more money is wanted, we can borrow and undertake these public works We cannot say that we have no money, because these are urgent needs to be attended to. One of these is the need for development. One of the members criticised the Government

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for want of policy and for paying more attention to routine work. It is not necessary for the Diwan to examine the different budgets submitted by the Departmental Heads and to cut down expenditure or to increase it.

President.—Is it your point that they should be asked to devise new schemes?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—We have got two standards. One is the normal expenditure and the other is the normal revenue.

President.—I am asking the question whether the Heads of Departments should submit schemes of developments.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—They can include these schemes in their budgets with their suggestions.

President.—What are the lines on which the Government can reasonably do that?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—One great scheme that is facing us now is rural reconstruction, and the necessity for increasing the food production of the country by advancing agricultural loans. More than 70 per cent of our people live upon agriculture, and they are mostly peasants. The returns we get from lands, whatever be the cost, are not sufficient to keep the population throughout the year. I think, by a progressive scheme of rural reconstruction, we can make Cochin self-sufficing. The Land Revenue Department can suggest suitable schemes, and the Government can consider such schemes.

President.—The concluding chapter of *the Administration Report* will show on what lines the Agricultural Department is proposed to be developed.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—I say such proposals are not enough. The first thing is we should have a programme for irrigation. The money spent so far on this important work has not been sufficient. In the last year's budget we allotted Rs. 84,496, but what amount was actually spent is not known. Irrigation is the most vital thing, and this should be given prominence. Through the failure of monsoons and unseasonal rains the *Kole* crop has suffered. This shows that we are lacking in earnestness in one of the most important matters. This year it is satisfying to note that one lakh and 25 thousand rupees has been allotted. The statement in the Gazette regarding a deputation of the *Kole* cultivators at Trichur and the reply thereto is very encouraging. I find that a lakh and 25 thousand rupees has been allotted for irrigation schemes. By this expenditure, other things are likely to suffer, which I wish to point out to this House.

The second thing required for rural reconstruction is the giving of agricultural loans to enable the people to cultivate their lands. We should advance more and more money to the

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agricultural people, and encourage them to work, and give them better facilities for work. This was what was done in Ireland. In the Land Act of 1909, the English Government advanced a large amount of money to the starving Irishmen for cultivating their lands. As a result, many of the untilled lands were brought into cultivation, and they were not only able to pay back the advance but purchase some lands for themselves.

Now, we come to the Co-operative Department. An Hon'ble Member yesterday told the House about the encouragement that is to be given to the Co-operative Department which is starving at present. Unless more money is spent for the department, and more life infused, its position will become worse, and will cease to be of any help for agricultural improvement. The Government should concentrate its attention on the side of giving loans in order to help the peasants to get lands and implements for agriculture, to buy manure and for cattle farming. If they get these facilities, we have every reason to hope that they will do better in the future.

There is still a greater question pending before the House, and that is the position of the subordinate staff. Their position is indeed very hard. During war-time, they were at least getting a temporary relief in the shape of an allowance. Even that is now withdrawn. Many of them are actually starving. They can neither beg nor steal. They can only borrow. The Government cannot postpone the consideration of this question any longer. The next year's budget has been already placed before the Council. It is a surplus budget, and as far as our financial position is concerned, it is satisfactory. So the Government need not be anxious to find ways and means to give some relief to these people.

Post-war prices have gone up to 150 per cent, and many of them are suffering from want of the necessaries to support life, and we find it is a position which no Government can postpone for consideration even by a short few months. To include some amount at least in the next year's budget is an absolute necessity. We can immediately increase the pay of the menials. Four annas in the shape of daily allowance to a peon is not enough even for his food. He is unable to get one meal with this amount and with one meal a day it is not possible to drag on.

President.—You only refer to the case of these Parvatiakkarans?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—No, Sir, not only of the Parvattiakkarans but of the menials of all the departments. Of course,

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till a scheme for a general revision of the pay is submitted by the Finance Committee, I request the Government to immediately afford some sort of relief to these poverty-stricken menials.

President.—Why do you make a particular emphasis on the Revenue Department?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—No, Sir. The pay of the subordinate staff in all departments who are drawing Rs. 25 and below may be revised for the time being. We may say that this increase in the pay will cost the Government more money, and it would necessitate fresh taxation. Yesterday the Hon'ble Member for Trichur pointed out that the State revenue should be augmented, not by increased and fresh taxation, but by effecting retrenchments. I perfectly agree with him in thinking so. There are several departments in which retrenchments can be effected, and if the money thus obtained is not sufficient, then we can have recourse to fresh taxation, such as income-tax, etc., excepting the land tax. The people are already over-burdened by the land tax. (*Hear, hear.*) The merchants in Trichur are millionaires, and their coffers are always full. They can very well contribute to the Cochin Government. Therefore it is that in the Western countries and even in British India they pay handsomely the supertax and unearned increment. In Mysore the income-tax alone amounts to 19 lakhs of rupees. So it is a very convenient tax in equity, justice and reason, and if our funds are not sufficient for the materialisation of all these schemes to revise the pay of the poor hard-pressed subordinate staff of the State service, well, we shall then go to the extent of taxing the rich people for the relief of these badly treated subordinates of the Government service. Well, Sir, I have pointed out the drawbacks connected with the general aspect of the budget, both on the receipt and expenditure sides. Well, there are several departments to be treated separately. I think the time is not in my favour.

President.—Can you not conveniently do it when cut motions are brought?

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—Yes, Sir.

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—I have to congratulate the Finance Member on his being able to present a surplus budget. But seeing that the proceeds of the sale of *kanom* lands and the interest are made use of to balance the budget, I fear we have not yet sighted a sound financial policy.

We have to take stock now of what we have done in the past legislative year. Have we justified our place here? Have we justified the spending of an extra Rs. 17,000? We cannot,

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in spite of all that you have said in glowing terms yesterday,—I fear—say an emphatic "yes" to these questions. For Sir, we meet here to exchange views between the Government and the non-official members through interpellations and resolutions. Resolutions we had many, of which some were talked out, some admitted and some thrown out. The attitude of the Government left nothing to be desired in this respect. The non-official members tried their level best to come up to the mark. The Government have not cared to accede to their requests. To recall only one instance, to show the mentality of the Government, Sir, the Sanitary Committee consisting of the Diwan Peishkar, the present incumbent of the office, and the late Chief Sanitary Officer had as long ago as 1917 found the Perinkulam tank of Nalleppalli insanitary, and requiring immediate attention, and had recommended the reapir of the same without delay. The Government accepted the proposal, and had allotted a sum the next year, but the work could not be carried out, owing to some legal restraint. Since the removal of that restraint, the Panchayat had been asking for its repair for the last few years. I had called the attention of this House to the fact. The Diwan was appraised of the state of the tank by the people of Nalleppalli and by me when he visited Chittur last time. He is reported to have said to the aged widows—who cares for them except perhaps the member for the Jewish Constituency—who had complained to him in person of the dangerous state of the steps of the tank, and requested him to have a look at it, that the tank would be repaired soon. In the face of all these, the present Chief Sanitary Officer satisfies himself by answering to a question put by me that the state of this tank is the same as that of such other tanks. Sir, I regret I have to ask, if the Chief Sanitary Officer is for leaving as he finds them, what is he for? With due respect to Dr. Verghese, I would suggest that the sooner that post is abolished, the better.

Since the President had referred to a resolution tabled by me, I shall recall the reply the Chief Sanitary Officer gave to a question whether Government's attention was drawn to the dangerous state of the western shore of the tank.

President. - Do you refer also to the resolution stating that the questions were not satisfactorily answered?

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—Yes, Sir. May I ask whether this is the way of answering a question? Are we not, Sir, the accredited members of the people? Are we to be given such answers? Have we not the right of asking questions?

President.—You have got every right, Mr. Echara Menon, to ask any question according to the rules.

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Mr. A. Echara Menon.—Regarding the Sanitary Department, I have again to bring to the notice of this House that the Government have not as yet found their way to deal with the Taluk Sanitary Inspectors who hold sinecure posts with little or no work. Our coffers are very poor. We require all available resources to make adequate provision for material development, for rural reconstruction, on which alone the progress of the State depends.

President.—Which Inspectors?

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—There are some Sanitary Inspectors working under the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. A reference is made to them.

President.—And the other Inspectors?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—They are not included here.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—They are only four.

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—The Sanitary Inspectors have little or no work. There is no supervision over their work.

President—If that is so, their posts should be abolished, The Government cannot pay for a man who has no work at all to do.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I know as a matter of fact that the Sanitary Inspector of Chittur Taluk has little work.

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—It is a consolation to know from the speech of the Finance Member that the question of the Sanitary staff as affected by the transfer of the provision of water supply to the Panchayats is under the consideration of the Government. What about the other?

The Additional District Judge has become a fixture. We are trying Additional Munsiffs now. These could be avoided, if the Government would only consider efficiency as the best test for appointments as well as for promotions. Much can also be done by a re-adjustment and allocation of the existing courts, according to the needs of the localities.

Sir, it is gratifying to note that provisions are limited to the dire necessities in the Agricultural Farm. If the Agricultural Department is to be of any practical use, if it is not to make a show to the world that we are also keeping pace with it, it is high time that the Government introduce more demonstrative farms to facilitate the spread of knowledge among those actually engaged in agriculture by establishing them in several places, at least, by turns. If this is not feasible, particular land-owners may be induced to undertake, on the improved methods of agriculture, intensive cultivation on a large scale, the Government guaranteeing, in case the failure of crops would tell heavily on them, to give an impetus to the undertaking.

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In connection with the abolition of the Ayurvedic Dispensary at Tattamangalam, it was elicited that a comprehensive scheme was under preparation. To what stage it has reached is not known. The public of Chittur was deprived of the Ayurvedic treatment.

President.—What were the circumstances under which we had to decline to aid the Tattamangalam Dispensary?

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—The Tattamangalam Dispensary was not charging anything for medicines. The Government did not look into the Allopathic side also, Sir. The Government asked them to close it, if they are not going to charge for medicines. The Chairman wrote back to the Government to postpone the putting of the order into force till one year more. The Government again wrote back that, if the medicines were not charged for, it should at once be closed. Then the Chairman prepared a memorandum regarding the fees to be charged and other things. Then the Chairman of the Municipality distributed the reply that the Dispensary is to be closed. The bottles and other things of the Dispensary had to be sold to send away the physician and the compounder.

We are spending a good portion of our income on Education, and the Finance Member has said that we have reached the stage of maximum expenditure, and we must not only cry a halt, but should find means by a cess. I strongly oppose any idea of a cess on the already aggrieved people. But there are many who do not know the three R's. We cannot expect to be called thoroughly literate, unless Primary Education is made free and compulsory. It is not much for the State to be asked to forego the income from that source which is only about half a lakh. There are places where schools are highly necessary. One such place is Rama Varma Puttur where the poor Koundars of the place, to show their great desire for a school, had, in compliance with the custom which had come into vogue during the last regime, provided funds for the acquisition of a site. Yet the Government say that they will be given a school only if they provide a building for the same. If that dictum is followed everywhere, I have no complaint. But Sir, Pūnkunnu, a place peopled by the gentry who could afford to send their girls to schools in motors, is to have a *pucca* building at Government cost. Why this invidious distinction? Why should the poor and the needy be accorded a differential treatment? The Director of Public Instruction has taken the same view of their needs, and has promised to consider their case most sympathetically, which I hope he will fulfil. The amount un-

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der "Superannuation and Pension" (13,800) is growing higher and higher. It would be better, if the rules are modified to give an alternative to the officers after attaining the age of 55 either to retire or to continue in office, the Government reserving for itself the power to compel to retire those who are really unable and who do not hold a clean slate.

President.—In Travancore, should they not reach the maximum of 60 years?

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—60 years only for the most healthy; the others will be asked to go home earlier.

President.—In Travancore, I think, in the case of the subordinate officers—these clerks and others—it is optional.

Mr. A. Echara Menon.—Sir, no provision for works of a reproductive nature has been made. It is only by undertaking such works we can keep away from deficit. The opening of the northern channel to the Mulattara anicut could have been undertaken. This would bring food to many an impoverished household and a good dividend to the State exchequer; where people had been getting Rs. 10 an acre, they would then get 50 rupees, and where the State has been getting as. 4 and Rs. 2 they would now get from Rs. 10 — 8 — 0. Everything except the sanctioning of the work has been carried out at heavy costs, and the construction of it has been postponed. Sir, it is only by undertaking such works that a permanent income can be insured. At a time when the air is rife with Prohibition, and consequently, the call to go without our one principal source of revenue, how can we make both ends meet, if we sit down brooding without embarking on such sure sources of income. I shall conclude, Sir, by once more emphasising that we have no time to lose, and that we should take such productive works in hand at once.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Sir, at the outset, I beg to offer my thanks to the Government and the Finance Committee for having their kindness in preparing the budget as a surplus one without giving room for any alterations as that of the last year. As this is the end of the first year after the inauguration of this Council, I think that everyone in the State will be very anxious to know the attitude of the Government as to how far they have acted according to the legitimate demands of the people. In this connection, I wish to place on record that the present budget is not at all satisfactory, since no appreciable change has been made in the present budget from that of the previous years.

Then, coming to the items in the budget, it is a matter for great regret that the provision for opening new roads in the

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rural areas of the State is quite inadequate. This is one of the prime needs of the people and of the most important functions of the Government. I believe that the main reason for the Government is that in Cochin there is a larger proportion of roads when compared with either Travancore or British India. To some extent, I do admit that. But at the same time it must also be considered that the conditions here and there are quite different with respect to population, output of land, production and commercial enterprises, and therefore, we require more roads than there. In Cochin also, it is very strange to note that the attention of the Government is not paid equally to all parts of the State. For example, my constituency has only very few roads when compared with any other part of the State, except the major portion of the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk, where there is no need of roads. I had already pointed out this fact in my last budget discussion. We suffer much on account of this sheer necessity. Afterwards, several representations were made by the public, and all the Panchayats in the constituency met together and passed some resolutions, and submitted them to the Government and other Heads of Departments who could do anything in this matter. The Diwan was also kind enough to make a visit to the place, and was personally convinced of the real situation. In spite of all this, only a very nominal amount has been provided here and there under the Panchayat Department, which itself is a sort of burden to the Government, as stated by the Finance Member. He also points out that the idea of the Government was to give the Panchayat only income from *Tirumulkazhcha*, and that a fresh tax is recommended for its present needs. I don't know how far this sort of scheme will be practical. From a scrutiny into the items of the main heads under "Communications—original" in the Public Works Department, we can see that it is not for original roads, i. e., for opening new roads. It is all for some repairs or for roads that are already existing. Either the heading "Original" from this item should be struck off or the allotment should be utilised for opening new roads. It is a matter for great regret for us, who unfortunately happen to be born in the rural parts, to be denied satisfaction of these urgent needs, though we are in no way backward in contributing our share to the Sirkar Treasury.

Then, I wish to place before you a few remarks on Education. Before going into details, I am glad to congratulate the Government and the Education Department for providing the same amounts for grants-in-aid to private agencies, though they gave room for great terror by contemplating a scheme to reduce grants. (*Laughter.*) I hope that the Government are

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now convinced that the reduction of grant will result only in an expansion of expenditure, as the present attitude of the Government is to hand over as many Sirkar schools as possible to private agencies. I don't know how far the Government will succeed in this respect, and who all are going to take up this responsibility. In this connection, I may be permitted to ask the Government why some of the schools conducted by the Government, and which are not at all necessary, may not be suppressed to make a saving. For example, I just point out that the High School for Boys at Trichur and the same for Girls at Irinjalakkuda. It is also very strange to see that new schools are started in places where one is already in existence. It will not only create unnecessary competition and rivalry, and will also result in barring the progress of both the institutions.

As to industrial education, it is a matter for great satisfaction that, under the administration of the present Head of the Department, a system of handicraft teaching has been introduced in all the Primary and other schools in the State. It would have been a great reform, if it is properly encouraged for any improvement, and therefore, I recommend to the Government to consider this question thoroughly, and give some help in the form of a preliminary expenditure grant to those schools which will properly utilise it. It is slso a great defect that the instruction and the training given to the pupil teachers in the Trades School, Trichur, is not satisfactory, since such items as weaving, carpentry, etc., are not feasible to be taught to small children, and such training need not be given to teachers who are intended to teach in Primary Schools.

Then, with regard to the pay of the teachers, I beg to bring to the notice of the Government that great dissatisfaction is brought forth by the teachers of Malayalam Schools, owing to the distinction followed by the Government with regard to the teachers of English Schools, though both may have the same qualifications, and, therefore, request the Government that some modification will soon be made in the case of the Malayalam School teachers.

I know that the present situation of our finance may not allow for any increase in expenditure in Education, and for that I hope that they will be able to find means by the new policy of encouraging private agencies to take up the burden of conducting schools. As to the difficulties now experienced by the authorities of aided schools, I wish to point out that the Director of Public Instruction should be a little more liberal in the matter of giving exemption from the rule regarding the minimum strength, since it has caused great hardship to several schools.

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As to the total expenditure for Education, it seems that great anxiety is felt regarding it by the Government as well as some of the leading men outside. Here I want to point out that we are not spending so much as the Sister State of Travancore.

With regard to the Tramway, I have only to say that it is very strange to see that the Government still spend a large sum for it even this year, though it is quite against public opinion. This should be done away with as early as possible.

With regard to the pay of the menials in the Government service, I wish to point out that proper revision of their pay is to be made as early as possible. It is not very difficult for any one to guess how they will find means to make good the deficiency. In this respect, I beg to recommend that the first attention of the Government should be drawn to the case of Village Officers in the Land Revenue Department, and this will save a lot of trouble to the public as well as to the Government.

From the summary in the statement of the Financial Member, it seems that the Government is very eager to tax some new source to develop our income. In this connection, I beg to point out that the only source available is the introduction of income-tax as in all the other States of India. There are a good number of our rich people who are rich and wealthy in our State who do not contribute a single pie to the Government, though they are equally sharing the benefits of the Government, and I hope that this will be only in the fitness of things, if they are asked to pay their share, and moreover, the number of such people is more than in any other State when compared with the condition of our State.

Lastly, I avail myself of this opportunity to invite the attention of the Government to the fact that great is the disappointment among a major portion of His Highness' subjects in the matter of giving appointments in the Government service, and I doubt that this would have been the main reason for bringing suggestions by several of my honourable friends for re-constitution in the form of Government. It is a most unhappy thing, if one section among the subjects of His Highness is put to suffer and heart-rending by the policy adopted by the Government in this particular affair.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—The Hon'ble Member for Adur complained that the length of the roads in his constituency is small. I wish to complain that there is no road at all in my constituency. In spite of repeated complaints and interpellations put by me, nothing has been done by the Government so far.

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In the last session, the Hon'ble Member for the P. W. D. promised to look into the matter of extending the Pallivirutti road from the temple up to the limits of Pallivirutti. To my great disappointment, I find that no provision has been made at least for that one mile of road in my constituency. But I shall talk more about this when the motions come.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—For a road from Rameswaram, provision has been made.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—See the Appendix.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Thank you.

President.—That is how many miles?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—That is one mile.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—But I think there is greater necessity to extend the road from Pallivirutti Temple up to the limits of Pallivirutti.

President.—It is only to correct your statement that *no* provision has been made.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I thank the Government for giving me a mile of road. Of course, I shall speak more about it when I come to the motions.

I wish to make an observation regarding the statement made by the Hon'ble Member for Chittur regarding the keeping of superannuated officers. The Hon'ble Member for Chittur suggested that the officers of the Government may be retained in the service even after they have completed the age of 55. I record my most emphatic protest against this suggestion, and pray that the Government may not take it as a general principle. Already our Cochin State is notorious for having superannuated officers in the offices. This fact has been brought out by various statements in the Press and outside. For the information of this House, I shall just point out what appeared in the *Kerala Punch*, some time ago. It appears that an old man of 90 years was found dead in the Shoranur Railway Station. On investigation being made, it was found that he was a British pensioner who was on his way to find a place in the Cochin Government service (*Laughter*). Such is the ridicule that our Government has received for keeping superannuated officers in the State. Particularly, at this time when there are so many graduates who are seeking for employment in the State service, I would think it to be the greatest folly to retain these officers—to keep them any longer after they have completed 55.

Of course, there are exceptions, and I think the Government will be justified in certain cases in granting extensions. But I

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think it will be a folly to adopt this as a general principle. It will really be a funny sight—to my mind—to have our Government benches filled by venerable men with long beards just as it appeared in the Roman Senate when the Goths invaded Rome. I do not want to proceed with the matter further, and I will directly enter into the discussion of the budget

Sir, from the statement of the Finance Member and also from the preliminary budget that has been presented before this House we see that, in the actual working of the current financial year, the Government has been able to produce a much greater surplus than was expected, i. e., 3 lakhs 25 thousand one hundred rupees more than what was anticipated. But I do not think that the Government deserves any special congratulation for this, as this increase in surplus was mainly due to a mere "windfall"—to use the words of the Finance Member himself—in the matter of Customs and also due to savings effected by not carrying out some of the most essential undertakings such as the duplication of the Water Works machinery, the purchase of furniture and apparatus in the College, etc., etc.

Before proceeding further, I should like to know by way of information from the P. W. D. Member why the duplication scheme of the Water Works machinery was not carried out, although there was a budgetted provision for that.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is being carried out.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I find in the budget an allotment of nearly Rs. 31,000 for the duplication scheme at Chowwara not utilised.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—That was for the construction of a reservoir, but the Travancore Government did not allow us to do so.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—But I find from the budget that the allotment is for the duplication scheme at Chowwara, and that has not been carried out.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—That is being carried out this year. This year we are carrying out the work at a cost of nearly 30,000 rupees.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Why was it not carried out in the course of the year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is being carried out.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Am I to understand that the machinery at Chowwara has been duplicated?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes. One portion of it has been duplicated. The filter at the end has been duplicated.

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Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I would like to know about the other portion.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The construction of the storage reservoir and other works were not carried out.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I thank you for the information.

I should think that it was the first work to be done by the P. W. D. in view of the meter resolution passed by this House and accepted by the Government and in view of Mr. Koder's very modest request for at least 25,000 gallons of good Alwaye water per day for the thousands of suffering humanity in Mattancheri.

The revised estimates for the year 1101 shows on the expenditure side an increase over the budgetted amount, of 600 rupees, for the Co-operative Department.

President.—Is there any particular demand in the case of which any amount has been spent over and above the budgetted amount?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Yes, Sir.

President.—Wherever such excess expenditure has been incurred, the vote of the House has been obtained.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—As the figures now stand, I find the following excesses:—the Co-operative Department—600; the Registration Department—3,200; for Law and Justice—2,500; Jails—3,600; the Police Department—16,400; for religious purposes—11,300; Charities—10,700, etc.

President.—If there is allotment under one major demand, there can be a transfer of items out of the amount, but the budgetted amount of that demand should not be exceeded without the vote of the Council. That is our rule. Mr. George says that under Co-operation there is an increase of Rs. 600. Please look into that. Is there any such case?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—If there is an additional allotment, it will be placed here for the vote of the Council.

President.—What I want to see is whether the statement is correct. That is all.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—The figures are quite clear. There is an increase over the budgetted amount of 600 rupees for the Co-operative Department, 3,200 for the Registration Department, 2,500 for Law and Justice, 3,600 for Jails, 16,400 for the Police Department, 11,300 for religious purposes, 10,700 for Charities and 3,200 by way of Interest.

President.—I remember to have come across only one demand or two where there was a necessity for asking for excess expenditure.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—Of course, two or three supplementary demands have already come.

President.—I don't know to what you refer.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—That was for ordinary expenditure of the Registration Department.

President.—In the Registration Department, I remember that there was a supplementary grant.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—All the supplementary grants put together will not exceed 600 rupees.

President.—For all the departments together?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—In the Registration Department the revised estimate is Rs. 71,300, whereas the budget estimate is Rs. 68,100.

President.—How did it come?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Wherever the budgetted amount has been exceeded, the Government have sanctioned it under section 16 (9) of the Regulation VIII of 1098. In the only other case, an additional allotment is being asked for.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Of course, I am aware that the Diwan has got ample powers to certify in urgent cases, but the law provides that a statement should be placed on the table of this House. There is no meaning in bringing the matter to our notice after spending the amount.

President.—Have the statements been placed on the table?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—The statement will be placed on the table at the earliest opportunity.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—There is one simple explanation. The whole of the revised estimate has not been sanctioned. Because the estimate is there, you are not to suppose that the whole expenditure has been sanctioned.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know whether the expenditure has been incurred?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—No, it cannot be.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—If so, in any case, I cannot understand an estimate being made by Government to spend it after sanction is obtained. But I wish to know how much of this excess amount of Rs. 26,000 has already been spent without sanction. That is the point.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—The Government have already incurred a part of this expenditure as an urgent case, and a statement under saction 16 (9) will be placed on the table.

President.—Wherever the Government has to incur an expenditure, which requires the vote of the Council be sure that supplementary grant will be asked for.

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Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—All items shown in the revised estimates have not been passed, and for even those passed, Heads of Departments may have to ask for additional allotments. In some emergent cases they may have to incur expenditure with the sanction of the Government, and this they do, and the Government sanction it under section 16 (9) .For, if it is urgent, it cannot be placed before the vote of the Council by its very nature.

President.—Taking the instances pointed out by Mr. George, there are cases in which expenditure has already been incurred, and cases where expenditure has been proposed to be incurred but not yet incurred. A statement has been prepared to be placed before the Council under section 16 (9), and a supplementary grant will be moved, and hereafter, whenever additional expenditure has to be incurred, statements will be placed before the table, before the year comes to a close. So that there won't be any excess expenditure without the knowledge of the House.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—We have only a few days more for the conclusion of this financial year. I wonder when the statement is going to come. I believe most of the amounts have been already spent, because we are not going to spend Rs. 26,000 in one or two weeks. I consider the procedure to be highly illegal.

President.—I mean that there are some statements to be placed on the table.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Two statements have to be placed.

President.—Anything under section 16 (9) to be placed?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes, Sir.

President.—Anything by way of supplementary grants?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Yes, we had one supplementary grant for the Medical Department.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—A demand for a supplementary grant will be made tomorrow under Land Revenue.

President.—Mr. George's submission is whether you are going to make the demand in respect of all the cases either under section 16 (9) or by way of supplementary grants. You understand it now? Now, he points out certain cases in the revised estimates, among those proposed to be spent. No doubt as the Diwan Peishkar said, it is not the sanctioned amount that we find in the revised estimate; it is only the estimate. But so far as those amounts are concerned, they must be cases of expenditure where a statement has to be placed before the table under section 16 (9), or cases of emergency, i. e., cases where supplementary grants will not be made. So that in regard to all these excess amounts, are you going to adopt that procedure?

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Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Yes, Sir.

President.—The Finance Member assures us that everything will be placed on the table.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I rise to a point of order in this respect. We have already published the revised estimate. In the revised estimate there is an excess estimate, and it is stated that we need not presume that the money has been already spent, excepting those things for which action has been taken under section 16 (9), and if action has been taken under section 16 (9), then we have no voice. It comes to this, that we have estimated to spend within this year itself an additional amount which is not budgetted for. What was the objection to the Government to have placed that additional budgetted amount before this House before passing it?

President.—That will be placed before you shortly. Wherever we have to exceed the original demand, we will place the matter before the Council.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That will be in order.

President.—Do you follow our position, Mr. George?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I believe it is too late for the Government to have supplementary grants when we are discussing the budget for next year.

President.—You object to the procedure?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—It won't look well for the Government to ask for supplementary grants now.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Unfortunately, there was no Council session from Kumbham to Karkadagam. We could not do it earlier.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You could have put it on the first day. Now that we have pointed it out, you are going to correct the error.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The application will come tomorrow.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I continue, Sir?

President.—Yes.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—We may leave out of consideration the last three items, namely, "Religious", "Charities" and "Interest", which are items placed above the purview of this House. As regards the other five items, I believe the excess amounts shown in the column of the revised estimate represent figures actually spent or intended to be spent in the course of a few days, as the current financial year will come to a close within a few days. If that be so, I wish to ask the various Heads of Departments concerned as to how they have come by these excess amounts. If I remember right

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the Government has only made two or three motions for supplementary grants, and that for mere paltry amounts in the course of the current financial year. The excess amount shown in the revised estimate of 1101, and which is subject to the vote of this House, shows an aggregate figure of Rs. 26,300. I once more venture to ask the Government how they have come by this amount, and whether they think they are justified in having appropriated these amounts without even the knowledge of this House.

Why should a formal demand be made before this House for the various departments concerned, and why should the accredited representatives of the people be made to vote on it, if, afterwards, the Government is going to appropriate as much funds as it likes without even taking the trouble of making a supplementary demand. Paragraphs 113 and 121 of *the Manual* are imperative, and I cannot understand how the Government has got over these imperative provisions. However, I am aware that paragraphs 119 and 120 of *the Manual* give the Diwan ample powers, in emergency and for the safety and tranquillity of the State, to authorise any expenditure which he deems necessary. While questioning the propriety of the Diwan certifying expenditure on so many items within the course of one year—if he has really done so—in the exercise of extraordinary powers vested in him, I wish to point out that even in doing this, the Government is, by an imperative provision of law, bound to place a statement on the table of this House, as soon as may be, thereafter, showing the action so taken by the Government. To my knowledge, such a statement has not been placed before this House. to cover this extra expenditure of Rs. 26,300. If my observations are correct, I maintain, Sir, the appropriations made by the Government are illegal, high-handed and unconstitutional. I wish further to point out that, even if the Government has made such a statement, such certified expenditure for five items within the course of one year shows an utter disregard of the feelings of the members of this House, and renders the voting of members on the demands for grants a mere farce. The powers conferred on the Diwan by paragraphs 119 and 120 of *the Manual* are extraordinary, and they are in fact never intended to be utilised, unless matters are brought to such a tension as to make its utilisation necessary for the safety and tranquillity of the State. In thus certifying expenditure on five occasions within the short period of one year, I think the executive in Cochin has excelled all other Governments in India.

President.—Of course, that statement should be got corrected.

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Mr. George Chakyamuri.—In view of the assurance given, I would like to correct that statement. But, I was left by the Government in darkness regarding that.

President.—There is a rule binding us; we have to follow the rule.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—In most cases, the expenditure will be found to be on account of leave allowance, and the Government is bound to give leave allowance when leave is granted, and the Government have every right to anticipate that the House will vote for the amount.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Exactly. Leave allowance requires no definite sanction.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Coming to this year's figures for the various items of expenditure, I do not propose to deal with them in detail, since, to my mind, the budget figures of this year are a close imitation of the figures of last year, and this House has touched upon them, one after another, in detail, during the budget discussions of last year. This position, however, denotes an utter lack of originality and initiative on the part of our Government in originating new schemes of usefulness which, though involving extraordinary expenditure, in the beginning, will ultimately result in great national prosperity and gain to the State. I allude to the various improvements that have yet to be made in agriculture and industry to alleviate the miserable lot of lakhs of His Highness' subjects. I cannot understand why our Government should make an investment of five lakhs of rupees in Mysore loans at 7 per cent (*Hear, hear*), when the same amount could be more profitably utilised within the State itself either by giving loans to the small farmers of the State on proper security and thus saving them from the clutches of the money-lender or by launching upon new schemes of agricultural and industrial improvement which are bound to result in greater national wealth and greater income to the State than the 7 per cent that you receive from the Mysore Government. However, I congratulate the Government on having transferred its financial activities from the Bohemian Bank to a State nearer home.

The Finance Member has alluded in his speech to the levy of a local cess for Panchayat administration and of an education cess to meet the increasing demand of money in the field of Education. I can only repeat what I have stated in mylast budget speech. Any attempts on the part of the Government to impose any manner of additional taxation will be opposed tooth and nail by the people of this State, unless and until the enormous waste that is going on on all sides is completely rooted

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out, and the strictest economy is practised in all the departments of the State.

President.—What about income-tax?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I do not propose to say anything on the matter, until I see that the Government mends its ways and practises economy, and when I am satisfied that there is economy, I shall give my opinion on the matter.

Sir, this State stands charged with culpable guilt in this line, particularly, the previous administration, and I am glad to note that aspects are bettering under your administration. You have created many posts in the past to provide work for individuals in some cases, and abolished them when that particular individual has been otherwise provided for. Many are the people who have run away with our Government money in the past. I do not want to multiply instances. For these and much more, our Government will have to account to the people of the State before they launch on new schemes of taxation.

I congratulate the Government on the announcement made yesterday that the Government is considering the resolution submitted to it by the Mattancheri Municipality on the matter of giving them an elected Chairman, and I trust and hope that any decision that may be arrived at will be the result of mature and impartial deliberation so as not to cause again the merchant princes of Cochin awake from their political slumbers and make another *jatha* to the Hill Palace.

Coming to the depressed classes, Sir, to my mind, our Government stands charged with culpable neglect of the interests of over six lakhs of His Highness' subjects. These six lakhs of people represent the life blood of our State. They feed us, they clothe us, they carry us from one place to another, and minister to all other wants of ours, and yet what is the attitude which our Government takes towards them? In British India they have already created a department for the amelioration of these poor suffering classes of people, and I understand in Travancore such a department is in immediate contemplation. We expected our Government also to make some provision of the like nature in this year's budget, but I think many of us in this House are disappointed at this step-motherly attitude of the Government in a matter vitally affecting nearly half of His Highness' subjects.

Sir, you are a son of the soil, and you have been many years of State service in the various departments of our State. You are acquainted with the miserable condition of these lakhs of His Highness' subjects better than any one of us in the House here. By the grace of God, your successful career in the Gov-

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ernment service has been crowned with the highest rewards to which a citizen of this State could aspire. Every creed and class of His Highness' subjects welcomed your advent as the Diwan of this State, because we have faith in your ultimate sense of justice and goodness. But you should not forget that there is a heavy corresponding responsibility lying on you to do your best to ameliorate the condition of these depressed classes before you lay down your reins of office. To me, one thing is certain. Whether you refrain from disclosing to us the period of your appointment or not, you will have to go within a period of 2 or 3 years, and when you live the latter portion of your life in retirement and peace, you will receive the blessings and benedictions of these poor suffering humanity, if, now, when you are in power, you advise His Highness to do his best to better the condition of these poor people. Towards the latter portion of your life, it is not the idea of having given appointments to Venkiteswara Ayyars or Kandar Menons that is going to smoothen and console you, but it will be the idea that you have done something to make lakhs of souls (souls as great as yours) happy during the short period allotted to you as the head of the Executive Government in Cochin.

President.—What is the reference to the Government appointment of Messrs. Venkiteswara Ayyar and Kandar Menon?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—It has been said that a monster petition has been submitted to His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin by many of the depressed classes to have some officer appointed as their Protector to look after their interests. That matter has not received the attention of the Government.

President.—I can very well understand that. But what reference is there to the appointment of Messrs. Venkiteswara Ayyar and Kandar Menon? What I mean to say is these are all unnecessary remarks. Personal remarks like these would be objected to.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—With your permission, Sir, I alluded to those appointments, because those appointments have been made in contravention to some of the best principles, and that is why I thought of saying that.

President.—It is not a proper answer. There must be a basis for your thought.

Mr. George Chakyamuri—If I think that an appointment has not been properly made, I think I have right to criticise the Government. That is why I alluded to these.

President.—You can critise, but why these personal reflections?

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Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Because I fear these appointments have not been made in keeping with the principles accepted by this House.

President.—What are the principles accepted by this House?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—As far as I understood the procedure of this House, there was an understanding that in selecting officers hereafter, when different candidates apply, the one that comes from the community less represented, if he has got sufficient qualification, is to be preferred.

Mr. N. P. Venkiteswara Ayyar has been recently appointed in the Medical Department. I know there were Christians —Christian applicants, who had even superior qualifications— but to my great disappointment, I found that the Government preferred to give the appointment to Mr. N. P. Venkiteswara Ayyar?

President.—Who had superior qualification?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Mr. V. J. John, M. B., B. S., who has put in one year's house-surgeoncy in Madras.

President.—I think this Mr. Venkiteswara Ayyar also had house-surgeoncy there?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes, Sir. He had also house-surgeoncy.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Even granting that they have got equal qualification, I think it has been accepted more or less that, when different candidates apply, those that belong to the community less represented, as long as they have the required qualification, must be taken.

President.—Which class is less represented in the Medical Department?

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—It is not the question of Medical Department alone. I am very much surprised to see the Government taking representations by departments. Generally, I believe, the Christian is very much less represented than the Brahmin.

Of course, in the light of the explanation, I need not further proceed with Mr. Kandar Menon's appointment, but the same argument will hold good. I did not make that allusion without any meaning; it was full of meaning. I think I was perfectly within my rights in having made those allusions.

Sir, it is a sin before man and God to deny to these people the elementary rights of citizenship. You told us yesterday that only half a mile of public road is closed against them. But is that not, at least, an injustice done to them which is half a mile long? Sir, how long are you going to keep this half a mile road closed

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against them? At any rate, I sincerely believe that, if our Government does not move with the times and act in the light of the development taking place in other parts of the world, a time will come—which I do not think to be far off—when they will enter these roads whether you are willing to grant it or not. I, therefore, request you, Sir, to advice His Highness, who is goodness itself personified, to do his best for this suffering section of His Highness' subjects.

A word by way of conclusion. The constitution of our little State is so undefined and clumsy that I think that an early revision has been called for. Although in all other matters, our State is a very advanced one, a thorough analysis of the constitution will show that in matters of constitutional government, we stand somewhere where England stood in the days of Ethelread the Unready or John Lackland. I propose to speak more in detail about this on another occasion, but I am certain that the time has come for the Government to seriously take up this question immediately to avoid unpleasantness in the future.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—Sir, in rising to make a few observations on the budget I may assure you, Sir, that I will not narrate the history or the growth of this Council or the popular representative institutions of other places. I will not flatter or slander anybody here or outside. I will not advocate the cause of my community for its share in the loaves and fishes of office, not because that they are adequately represented in the services, if judged by the standards of the champions of the other communities; but because my community is not so selfish as to subordinate the larger interests of the State to those of theirs, and I feel that, if I do so, I will not be doing my duty to my constituency which consists of all the other communities of the State also. I will not also put forward any impracticable schemes of constitutional reforms, although I stand for full responsible government—a government with an Executive responsible to the Legislature and not with a Legislature to register the decrees of the Executive. I will not try to pick holes in the present or the past Government for its own sake; although I will never fail to call a spade a spade.

I cannot congratulate the Government for having presented a surplus budget. Why should the Government have a surplus at all? Why should they collect more than what is actually needed? And if they propose to collect more, why should they not spend it for the amelioration of the present deplorable economic condition of the people or, in the words of the Finance Member, for the moral and material progress of the people?

The policy enunciated by our Government last year—the policy of keeping the expenditure within the income and to have

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a balanced budget—is, to my mind, a sound one. I fail to see why they are anxious to budget for a surplus this year. I find a marked tendency in our Government for hoarding, in the last few years. It may be said that, ours being an agricultural country, we must provide for agricultural depression and famine years. I do admit the force of this argument. But I say, Sir, the 40 and odd lakhs savings that we have now is more than sufficient for such emergencies. It must be the policy of a sound and progressive government like ours to keep only just as much amount in reserve as will be necessary to meet such emergencies and to spend the balance in some productive enterprises. Considering the position and condition of our State, I think that half of the present surplus can with advantage be invested on some such reproductive works.

I do not propose to say anything about the budgetted amount for salaries of officers and other establishment charges, as the Finance Committee is entrusted with the investigation of that matter. Although it is my firm conviction that, if the Government had been a little more earnest and prompt, they could have had the Report of that Committee before this session. But that is not to be. I know it is a difficult and laborious work, and I only hope that they would submit their Report as early as possible, without giving the Government another opportunity of shelving this vexed problem.

As regards the other main items of expenditure, I must confess that, in spite of the explanation, or, to put it a little more bluntly, the apology of the Finance Member and yourself, Sir, I have yet to be convinced of the necessity and propriety of the waste of over 1½ lakhs of good money upon the Tramway. I am sure that I am not alone in this matter. I reserve all that I have to say on the matter in detail, when I move to omit this item of expenditure from the budget. I would at present strongly urge the Hon'ble members of this House to reject this item of grant of the Tramway *in toto*.

We shall thus have a saving of over 3 lakhs of rupees. The next question is how best we can spend it. A pretty decent slice of it can be given to the Education Department for the introduction of spinning in all the schools of the State. I think I have made it clear to the members of this House that hand-spinning is the noblest, cheapest and most economical industry that a poor agricultural country like ours wants. It will provide work for the agriculturists for six months of the year, when they have no other work to do. It will increase our national weaith and double our average income. Although the Government solemnly accepted my resolution, after a full and thorough

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discussion, for the introduction of spinning in the Schools of the State, in Vrischigam last, what have they done in carrying it out except to pass a most unsatisfactory Government order, and give a bold heading 'Spinning classes' in the budget. I have to say a good deal on this subject—the indifference of the Government about that resolution in the step-motherly treatment accorded to it. But I shall do so, when the motion for cut upon this item is taken up. I enter my emphatic protest against the attitude of the Government in this matter. Here is a surplus budget. Here is a fine opportunity for the Government to redeem its pledge. I hope they will not fail to take advantage of it.

I would suggest that the balance may be distributed for the extension of sanitation in rural areas, the improvement of irrigation, the encouragement of the Ayurvedic ystem Sof Medicine, the spread of the Co-operative movement and the development of the Department of Agriculture and Panchayats.

The Agricultural Department.—Ours is an agricultural country. Half of our population is engaged in agriculture. We are able to produce food-stuffs only for four-months of the year. The land is limited. Improvement of the methods of agriculture is the only way to increase the production of food-stuffs. In other words, we want intensive cultivation. Our present agricultural classes are ignorant of it. They have to be educated, and it can be done best by the Department of Agriculture, where we are fortunate in having a handful of enthusiastic and clever experts. We find fault with that department without taking stock of the difficulties it has to encounter. We do not supply them the necessary steam for its engine to move about, and do its useful work. I have often heard the complaint in this House and outside that there are some experts in the department, and that they have not done anything so far. I ask: "Were they given the necessary materials to work? Have they been given a laboratory to make experiments or any up-to-date library for consultation?" I think it is just like asking an expert barber to crop our hair with a blunt axe, and finding fault with him for not doing his work properly. As a matter of fact, I understand that these experts are not now employed in their legitimate work. Our Chemistry Assistant, Mycologist and Entomologist, for want of better work, are deputed mostly for the inspection of Panchayats which certainly do not require expert training in agriculture. I, therefore, suggest that that department may be given a handsome quota from the anticipated savings of the next year, so as to make them carry on an active and effective propaganda in spreading the knowledge of improved methods of cultivation.

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